

Coping and acceptance of mastectomy process by breast cancer patients

Abstract

Introduction: Breast cancer is recognized as the most common type of cancer and second position of mortality after lung cancer .

Breast cancer with %22.6 is the most prevalent cancer among Iranian women.

Mastectomy comprises % 81 of surgeries done for treatment of breast cancer.

Mastectomy may create feelings such as deformation or impairment in patients, cause body – image disorder, and reduce sexuality and sexual activity, subsequently may prone to other disorders.

Method and Material: A grounded theory method was used to guide this study.

Twenty participants were recruited. Open, semi- structured questionnaire were conducted. Data analysis was carried out with the constant comparative method using Staus Corbin method.

Findings: Seven main categories was administered from the collected data; reactions to mastectomy, apposition of lose and death, reevaluation of evaluation system, consent for undergoing mastectomy, reactions and troubles after lose, confrontation of lose and health, compatibility withy changes and reorganization all of which affected the coping process in patients with breast cancer.

Conclusion: The results of the study indicated that patients were informed on their breast cancer and the necessity of mastectomy as the treatment, they passed the seven categories to adaptation with mastectomy.

Key words: breast cancer, mastectomy, coping , acceptance.